



CDR ERIC HANKS

COMMANDING OFFICER



CMDCM GARY SMEDLEY

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF



CDR JON SPORE

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

On-station - Vol. 5 – November 2014



"Follow Me on Facebook" <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Patrol-Squadron-FOUR-VP-4/193652304525>

VP-4 Ombudsman Link: <https://www.facebook.com/VP4Ombudsman>

Squadron Website Link: http://www.vp4.navy.mil/patrol_squadron_four09.htm



CO'S CORNER

Skinny Dragon Ohana,

This November the Skinny Dragons were focused on Turkey! A few members of our command exhibited their skills in the air and professionalism on the ground during Exercise Mavi Balina, a joint Anti-Submarine Warfare exercise hosted by the Turkish Navy. Those that attended the exercise had the opportunity to work closely with the Turkish Navy and improve tactical proficiency. A different kind of turkey was on the minds of the rest of the Skinny Dragons. Happy Thanksgiving to all the family members back home! We continue to press through deployment and look forward to returning to Hawaii. I would like to congratulate all of the newly promoted Skinny Dragons! Keep up the hard work! Enjoy the latest newsletter and remember if you have any questions or concerns you can contact our two great Ombudsman by email (skinnydragonombudsman@gmail.com) or by phone: Rebecca Mitchem (904-525-2313) and Ashley Flynn (618--365-0614). Each week we invite families and friends to check the Squadron's Facebook page for "Photo Fridays". The photos encompass daily life, and special occasions at each of the detachment sites.

Ciao,
Skipper Hanks

SIGONELLA DIRECT

November has brought fall weather to Sigonella! We are excited to enjoy the first seasonal change since leaving Hawaii! The peak of Mt. Etna is snow capped and the temperature is dropping. The operational demands of maintaining air worthy aircraft has not relaxed. Each day our maintenance professionals combat a new project in repairing, inspecting, and servicing our P-3's. The AZ's are screening and verifying the IMC aircraft helping insure the continued success and quick turnaround of the mission assets to return to the fight quickly. AD1 Stewart-Rodriguez, AD2 Ott, and the rest of our outstanding Mech shop, diagnosed and then replaced an aircraft engine that malfunctioned. Our corpsman are now 99% complete with distributing annual flu vaccines and continue to do a great job maintaining medical readiness and promoting the health promotion program. Admin department has done a great job this month tracking all promotions, awards, and qualifications. Over 40 Skinny Dragons were awarded this month, as well as promoted. Our logistic specialists transported 1.8 million dollars' worth of aviation depot level equipment to and from our detachment sites in Rota and Turkey. These individuals are only a small fraction of those that put in the time, sweat, and energy to ensure our birds are in top condition for the safety of our combat aircrews and the operational commitments of our deployment. Thanksgiving was a great chance to take a break from the duties associated with the hangar. The command came together like true ohana and celebrated by having a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. While our friends and families back home were on our minds, the gathering was still a nice time. Happy Thanksgiving from Sigonella!

DJIBOUTI DIRECT

Happy Thanksgiving from the Skinny Dragons down in DJ! The holiday season has kicked off and we had the opportunity to host the XO and CMC for a week! The galley put on a wonderful spread for Thanksgiving dinner, and it was a great time to give thanks and share each other's company. Family is always in our thoughts, and we are thankful to have your support back home. Another month has passed, and we are well on the downhill slope towards being back in Hawaii. We continue to provide outstanding support to missions in the Horn of Africa. We also had the opportunity to strengthen foreign relations and host a Japanese P-3 squadron for a static display. With the holiday season fast approaching, we look forward to finishing out deployment strong and returning home safely!

VP-4 IN ACTION

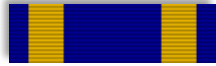








SKINNY DRAGONS IN THE SPOTLIGHT!!



Air Medal

LT Mitchell
LT O'Connor
LT Wilmoth
LTJG Scholes
AWV2 Martinez



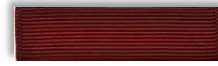
Navy Marine Corps Commendation Medal

LCDR Drake



Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal

NCC Valdez
AT1 Prestridge
AWF2 Bayate
AWF2 Campbell
AM2 Hester
AD2 Laplace
AD3 Jotojot



Good Conduct Medal

AWO2 Hayes
IS2 Torrance
AWO2 Umhoefer
PR3 Comer
AE2 Fisk
AWV2 Forsyth
AM3 Havea
AT2 Maday
AM3 Malik
AWO2 McCrorey
AO3 Sifuentes
AT2 Troili
AWF2 Walcutt



Flag Letter of Commendation

AZ2 Dixon
AM3 Grant



Newly Qualified Level 300/400

AWV2 Forsyth
AWO2 Hilario
AWO2 Torres
AWO2 Willner



**Newly Qualified Enlisted Aviation
Warfare Specialists**

YN2 Jefferson
YN2 Andrades
AT2 Forrester
AO2 Greb
AE3 Juarez
AD3 Andrews
AZ3 Klink
AOAN Cardin

Newly Qualified CDI/QAR/CDQAR

CDI

PR1 Davis
AME1 Garza
AO1 Rongey
AM2 Delrosario

QAR

AE1 Shields
AT1 Vallaincourt

CDQAR

AM2 Limos

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



CPRW-2 Children's Christmas Party

December 6, 2014

Time: 1100-1300

Location: Hangar 104/VP-47/9 Spaces

- ★ Pizza, drinks and sweet treats will be provided
- ★ Entertainment: Supervised bouncy houses, henna tattoos, movie showing, music and other fun activities.
- ★ Each parent is asked to bring their child one wrapped and labeled gift to be given to them from Santa (\$20.00 Cap).
- ★ Sign up with your command FCPOA so we may have a head count of those attending!

FROM YOUR VP-4 OHANA